



# Nigeria

By Abbie, Grace, Emily and April

# Origins

- Prior to British rule Nigeria consisted of numerous ancient African civilizations such as the Kingdom of Nri, Benin Empire, Oyo Empire etc. (1100 BC)
- The subsequent pre-colonial period lasted from 1500-1800, when the country was still dominated by similar West African kingdoms/empires
- Nigeria then was under British rule during the colonial period from 1800-1960
- They achieved independence on October 1st, 1960, which is when the first republic was established
  - Prior to 1999 military dictatorships were the most prominent form of government
  - In 1999, there was a shift from military dominance in government to civilian dominance

# Geography of Nigeria

- Located in Western Africa bordering the Gulf Of Guinea
- Between Benin and Cameroon
- There are 36 states and 1 territory in Nigeria
- In the tropics meaning the climate is seasonally damp and humid
- Adamawa Highlands, Mambilla Plateau, Jos Plateau, Obudu Plateau, the Niger River and Niger Delta are all major geographical features of Nigeria
- Natural Resources:
  - Petroleum
  - Natural gas
  - Tin
  - Iron ore
  - Coal
  - Limestone

# Government

---

- Federal presidential republic
- President: Muhammadu Buhari
- Legislative:
  - Senate: 3 seats per state and 1 seat for the Abuja-Federal Capital Territory
  - House of Representatives: 360 seats
- Judicial:
  - Supreme Court: 16 members, members are recommended by National Judicial Council and appointed by the president
- Executive:
  - president and cabinet (appointed by president)
  - President is chief of state, head of government, and commander in chief

# Economy

- Sub- Saharan Africa's largest economy
- Relies heavily on oil
- Most exports go to India (30.6%) and the U.S. (12.1%)
- Most imports come China (21.1%)
- Buhari is trying to diversify the economy by using protectionist tactics (such as limiting imports)
- Consumers are suffering because farmers cannot meet the high demands, leading to artificially high prices and increased smuggling
- Nigeria closed part of the border with Benin to prevent rice smuggling
- Efforts to diversify into agriculture are limited by poverty and corruption
- Nigeria recently joined the AfCFTA (African Free Trade Continental Area) which is intended to increase trade among African Countries

# People and Society

---

- Over 250 ethnic groups, including Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba, and Fulani
- English is the official language, but there are over 500 indigenous languages
- 52% Muslim, 11% Catholic, 35% Christian (other)
- Nigeria has religious and ethnic violence and tensions
- Boko Haram, a terrorist group, want to replace the government with an Islamic state and target civilians and military bases using suicide bombers
- Nigeria banned the Islamic Movement in Nigeria (IMN) in July, most of Nigeria is Sunni, IMN is Shi'ite
- #1 In the world for AIDS and HIV related deaths and #2 in the world for people living with AIDS or HIV
- 42.4% of the population is aged 0-14

